

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1- 14 remain in this application; claims 15-21 are withdrawn.

The Examiner raises the following rejections under 35 USC 103(a):

- 1) claims 1-2, 6-9, 13-16 and 20-21 are rejected as being unpatentable over Clark (US 5,216,987) in view of Alexius (US 4,995,587);
- 2) claims 3-4, 10-11 and 17-18 are rejected as being unpatentable over applicant's own admissions; and
- 3) claims 5, 12 and 19 are rejected as being unpatentable over Maruyama (US 2001/0043864).

Independent claims 1 and 8 are amended so that they define a compressor operable in context with a refrigeration system. In contrast, Clarke discloses an opening device for independent actuation of pairs of valves of a combustion engine. On the other hand, Alexius discloses a motion amplifier made up of two pistons, movement of the first piston in a first direction produces movement of the second piston in a direction opposed to the first direction. As in Clarke, the second piston is connected to a valve for fluid control.

FIG. 18 of Maruyama shows a lever-type amplifier for an axial drive device. If member 203 in FIG. 18 of Maruyama is taken as equivalent to the piston (16) of the present invention (see Fig. 4), then neither member 201 nor 202 is equivalent to a motion piston (16,44). Hence, Maruyama is not relevant to the present invention.

From the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the matter defined in amended independent claim 1 or 8 is now non-obvious in light of the disclosures of Clarke, Alexius and the background art. Accordingly, the matter defined in dependent claims 2-7 and 9-14 should, respectfully, be considered to be novel and non-obvious. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections in this Office Action.

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In this Office Action, Applicants notice that the filing date stated is July 28, 2005. This patent application was actually filed on January 7, 2005 and a response to missing parts was filed on July 28, 2005. Applicants respectfully request Examiner to verify the filing date of this patent application.

Respectfully submitted.

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